

ACTION SCA-00

INFO LOG-00 EEB-00 AID-00 AMAD-00 AS-00 ACQ-00 INL-00
DOEE-00 DOTE-00 PERC-00 DS-00 DHSE-00 EUR-00 FAAE-00
FBIE-00 VCI-00 FRB-00 H-00 TEDE-00 INR-00 IO-00
JUSE-00 LAB-01 L-00 MOFM-00 MOF-00 M-00 VCIE-00
DCP-00 NSAE-00 ISN-00 OIC-00 NIMA-00 PA-00 PM-00
GIWI-00 PRS-00 P-00 SCT-00 ISNE-00 DOHS-00 FMPC-00
SP-00 IRM-00 SSO-00 SS-00 STR-00 NCTC-00 ASDS-00
CBP-00 BBG-00 IIP-00 SCRS-00 PMB-00 DSCC-00 PRM-00
DRL-00 G-00 NFAT-00 SAS-00 FA-00 SRAP-00 SWCI-00
SANA-00 /001W

-----B68E7D 230910Z /38

O 230906Z SEP 09

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4968

INFO AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY

AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

SECDEF WASHINGTON DC

CIA WASHINGTON DC

NSC WASHINGTON DC

JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC

CDR USCENTCOM MACDILL AFB FL

USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL

S E C R E T ISLAMABAD 002293

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/18/2034

TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PGOV](#) [MOPS](#) [PTER](#) [PK](#)

SUBJECT: ANTI-TERRORISM ACT CHANGES MAY NOT ADDRESS
DETAINEE PROBLEM

REF: A. (A) PESHAWAR 187

[1](#)B. (B) ISLAMABAD 2288

[1](#)C. (C) ISLAMABAD 2185

Classified By: Ambassador Anne W. Patterson, Reasons 1.4 b and d.

[1](#)1. (S) Summary: Parliamentary Affairs Minister Babar Awan informed PolCouns that the changes his office was proposing to Pakistan's Anti-Terrorism Act. He requested USG support in pressing for ICRC access to detainees, which post will pursue. End Summary

[1](#)2. (C) As initial steps to implement a strategy on dealing with the allegations of Pakistan military involvement in extra-judicial killings,

[1](#)3. (C) Awan informed PolCouns that the legislation currently under consideration by the government would focus principally on changing evidence

[1](#)4. (C) Awan claimed that fear of terrorist groups reprisals was a primary reason both for lack of witnesses in terrorism trials and for acquittals

[1](#)5. (C) PolCouns expressed concern to Awan that nothing contained in his proposals would facilitate the successful trial of suspects detained. PolCouns inquired whether the GOP was planning a separate administrative process for dealing with such detainees. Awan stated that this was

[1](#)6. (C) PolCouns expressed USG concerns that the detainee problem could be a factor in extra-judicial killings by security forces that have killed

[1](#)7. (S) Border Coordinator met separately with International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Delegate Pascal Cuttat. Cuttat agreed with post's assessment that the inability to prosecute detainees effectively through the justice system was a contributing factor

[1](#)8. (S) Comment: Minister Awan's lack of knowledge or dismissal of NWFP government proposals to change the ATA (ref A) is disappointing. W. PATTERSON